



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/533,344	11/21/2005	Thomas Bernhard Pabst	003D.0059.U1(US)	7511
29683	7590	07/31/2006	EXAMINER	
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP 4 RESEARCH DRIVE SHELTON, CT 06484-6212			VU, HIEN D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/533,344

Applicant(s)

PABST, THOMAS BERNHARD

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election with traverse of species 1, Figs. 1, 2a-2b, claims 1-6 in the reply filed on 6/1/06 is acknowledged.

2. Claims 1-6 are objected to because of the following examples of the terms or features that are confusing and unclear: Claims 1-6, the terms "characterized in that" are unclear; claim 1, line 2, the term "introduction opening" and line 6, the features "introduced into the introduction opening" are confusing, last line, "its final position" lacks an antecedent basis; claim 2, line 2, "proceeding backward ... back end" are confusing and unclear, line 3, "the lever" lacks an antecedent basis; claims 3 and 4 features are not understood; claim 5, line 2, "their legs" lacks an antecedent basis, lines 3-4, it is unclear how the legs could press onto the flex cable by two ramps on the slide; claim 6, line 2, "their ends" lacks an antecedent basis.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

4. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mosquera (4975076).

Insofar as the claims can be understood, Mosquera, Figs. 1-5 show a housing 14, at least one opening 16, a flat flex cable 32, a strain relief having a slide 12, a rib 26, and a recess 60.

Art Unit: 2833

As to claim 2, Mosquera shows the slide having a tip, a ramp with a back end (not labeled) and the rib is pressed into the recess.

As to claim 3, Mosquera shows an upper edge disposed a shoulder for the ramp (not labeled).

As to claim 4, Mosquera shows spring contacts 36 having head ends press on regions of the conductive tracks of the flex cable.

As to claim 5, Mosquera shows the spring contacts being essentially U-shape having legs (not labeled).

As to claim 6, Mosquera shows the spring contacts having female connectors at one end.

6. Chishima et al, Geltsch et al, Miura et al, Godefroy et al, Puerner, Johnson, and Ikemoto are cited for disclosure off flexible cable connectors.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien D. Vu at telephone number 571-272-2016.

HV

7/22/06



**HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**